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Everett Statue has been postponed, so that my sympathies were premature. I hear, too, of the release from the burdens of the flesh, and the greater burdens of the spirit, of my venerated friend, Dr. James Jackson. I rejoice that he is at length at rest. His excellent son, James, was my schoolmate, classmate, and special friend. He died at least thirty years ago, after giving promise of even greater eminence than his father attained. My last visit to the father, whom I had known from my boyhood, was on the 22d of February, 1866, — a few weeks only before the clouds gathered so thickly over his mind; and I shall not soon forget his most interesting reminiscences of Washington, who passed a night under his father's roof at Newburyport in 1789. I hope he may have left them in writing. Nobody in our day has better entitled himself to be remembered as "the Good Physician" than Dr. James Jackson; and old Fuller would have taken him as an illustration of his charming essay. The death of Dr. Mason Warren is a greater calamity, as he had (according to human calculation) so many more years of usefulness before him. . . .

Yours faithfully,

ROBT. C. WINTHROP.

C. DEANE, Esq.

NOVEMBER MEETING.

A stated monthly meeting of the Society was held this day, Thursday, November 14, at eleven o'clock, A.M.; the Vice-President, Colonel ASPINWALL, in the chair.

The Librarian announced donations from the Boston Provident Association; the Essex Institute; the Historical Society of Pennsylvania; the Mercantile Library Association of New York; the Suffolk Institute of Archæology and Natural History; the Trustees of Bowdoin College; the Trustees of the Public Library of the

City of Boston; the Editors of the "Advocate"; the Proprietors of the "Heraldic Journal"; John Appleton, M.D.; Joseph K. Barnes, Surgeon-General U.S.A.; Franklin B. Dexter, Esq.; Franklin E. Felton, Esq.; Reuben A. Guild, Esq.; Benjamin P. Johnson, Esq.; Henry O'Reilly, Esq.; Octavius Pickering, Esq.; Hon. Josiah Quincy; Martin B. Scott, Esq.; Colonel Newell A. Thompson; and from Messrs. Bartlet, Chandler, Denny, Ellis, Green, Latham, J. Parker, C. Robbins, Sibley, Smith, and Whitmore, of the Society.

The Corresponding Secretary read letters of acceptance from President Theodore D. Woolsey, Brantz Mayer, Esq., and John Bruce, F.S.A., who had been elected Corresponding Members.

He also announced a gift from Colonel N. A. Thompson, of Boston, of a large number of volumes of the "Boston Daily Transcript," for which the acknowledgments of the Society were ordered.

Colonel ASPINWALL referred, in the following terms, to the decease, since the last meeting, of our distinguished associate, ex-Governor Andrew:—

Since our last meeting, this Society has sustained a great loss, in the death of our associate, John Albion Andrew. Although he was but recently elected a member, yet I feel sure that we shall all unite in honoring his memory by such a tribute of respect as will manifest our unfeigned sympathy with the deep sorrow felt by the whole community at the sudden death of an eminent and beloved citizen, distinguished alike by great private virtues and by many and signal services to this Commonwealth and the whole country.

We all remember, with gratitude, the promptitude with which he collected and despatched from this city the succors

that were needed for the preservation and defence of the National Capital, at the outbreak and most critical period of our late troubles. Throughout that unnatural conflict, his zeal, vigilance, and untiring efforts were all devoted to the cause of his country, in strengthening the arm of government to put down the rebellion, and achieve a final and decisive victory over the foes of our national existence.

For the consummate executive and administrative ability constantly displayed by him, he may justly be ranked with the most renowned patriots of the land.

Those who knew him best and most intimately can testify to the exemplary purity of his life; and to his amiable, guileless, faithful, and thoroughly Christian fulfilment of every domestic, professional, and social duty.

As others of our associates are waiting to give a more enlarged view of his merits and virtues, I shall only add, that, of John Albion Andrew we may justly say, the highest eulogy would be the simple narrative of his life.

I have been instructed by the Standing Committee to offer the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That, in the death of ex-Governor Andrew, this Society has lost a respected and beloved associate; the larger community in which he lived, a friend, true in all the relations of life; the Commonwealth, an eminent citizen, faithful to the high trusts which had been confided to him; the country, an ardent patriot, never found wanting in ability and will to serve her in the hour of trial.

Resolved, That the President be requested to appoint one of our number to prepare the customary memoir for the Society's Proceedings.

Messrs. CHANDLER and WATERSTON then addressed the meeting, giving interesting reminiscences of Governor Andrew's early life, and closing with eloquent tributes to his noble character.

The Resolutions were unanimously adopted, and Mr.

Chandler was appointed to prepare the memoir for the Proceedings of the Society.

The Hon. Charles W. Upham was elected a Resident Member.

Mr. DEANE called attention to a new volume of Proceedings, which had been placed upon the table this morning, of which each member was entitled to a copy. It embraces a selection from the Proceedings of the Society from January, 1866, to March, 1867, inclusive; and is the first volume published at the charge of the Peabody Fund.

Dr. ELLIS read extracts from an interesting letter received from the President, Mr. Winthrop, and dated Paris, October 23; showing that this Society and its welfare were still cherished by him. He referred in the following language to the decease of our distinguished associate, the Hon. Charles G. Loring: —

“I have heard with deep regret, within a day or two past, of the death of my valued friend, Mr. Loring. I had been informed of his illness during the summer, but within a fortnight past had been assured of his convalescence, and was earnestly in hope that his recovery would be permanent. Differing widely from him at times on matters of public concern, there were few men in our community for whom I had so warm a personal regard and respect. I owed him the deepest gratitude for favors which he had done me on more than one occasion; and it would have given me peculiar satisfaction to unite with our Society in paying him the tribute which he so well deserves. Boston has not many more such men to lose. His pure life, his devoted and disinterested labors for the public good, and his professional eminence, had secured for him a measure of consideration and confidence

which any one might envy. But I can do no justice to his memory in a few sentences of an off-hand letter, written amid the distracting whirl of Paris life."

Dr. LOTHROP, who had recently returned from Europe, spoke of having seen Mr. Winthrop while abroad, and brought some kind messages from him to the Society. He also brought from Mr. Winthrop, under cover to the Recording Secretary, two pamphlets, — "*La France en 1867, par Cyprien Millot*," and "*Question Mexicaine. L'Empereur est Mort*," by the same author; also, a large catalogue of valuable books, to be sold in Paris in January next, entitled "*Bibliotheca Americana*," &c.

A letter was read from Mr. Isaac G. Brewer, a grand-nephew of General Heath, addressed to our associate, Mr. S. Lincoln, saying that he was requested by Miss Anna Heath Blaney, of Roxbury (a grand-niece of General Heath), to present to the Society, through Mr. Lincoln, a copy of the *Memoirs*, and also a photograph, of General Heath. For these the acknowledgments of the Society were ordered.

A letter was read from Mr. Frederic Kidder, asking leave to copy from the MSS. in the Society's Library relating to the history of the "*Acadiens*," or neutral French, — particularly from the "*Winslow Papers*" and from "*Winslow's Journal*," — with a view of preparing a history of the subject to which these papers relate. Leave was granted, under the Rules, and the details were referred to the Standing Committee.

Mr. AMORY read the following letter from John Adams to Professor John Gorham, of Harvard College :

Hon. John Adams to Professor John Gorham.

QUINCY, Jan. 28, 1817.

SIR, — My thanks are due to you for your Inaugural Address of Dec: 11th.

I rejoice that such a Professorship is established and that so accomplished a Professor has been chosen.

I am afraid to express my wild ideas on this subject. We are all Chymists from our cradles. All mankind are Chymists from their cradles to their graves.

The Material Universe is a chemical experiment. Its Author and conductor is now, ever was, and ever will be, the only perfect Chymist in the universe. I believe he constantly superintends the operation, and interposes whenever, if ever, his Special Providence is necessary or beneficial.

Our terrestrial Chymists have a great controversy to decide between The Spiritualists and the Materialists. Will your Telescopes, Microscopes, Incision Knives, and Analyses ever penetrate to the original Atoms, the smallest particles of which this great chymical process is composed?

What is the first cause of Motion? Is it Spirit or is it Matter? Some Philosophers, antient and modern, say "Spirit is a mere Metaphysical Hypothesis, a mere Chimera."

I say that Matter is a mere metaphysical abstraction, a mere hypothesis, a chimera. We know no more of Matter than we do of Spirit. We know nothing of either, but their qualities and effects. And we can see no compatibility between Perception, Memory, Judgment, Reason, and Order; with Extension, Solidity, and Vis Inertiæ.

Can you Chymists discover any possible or conceivable connection between Sensation and Reflection, and Matter and Motion? Modern Philosophers say, Spirit is a word void of sense. I say Matter is a word void of sense. D'Alembert himself, when he was asked in writing, "What is matter?" answered in writing, "*Je n'en sçais rien.*" And every Chymist of you all must give the same answer.

When and how shall we discover the smallest Particles of Matter in the Universe? When and how shall we discover the original causes of the mysterious diversity of odours and flavours, consider the odour of the Apple, the Quince, the Lime, the Lemon, the Orange, the Strawberry, the Raspberry, the Thimbleberry, the Pine Apple,

the Grape, the Pennyroyal, the Saffron, the Balm, the Sage, the Mint, the Tansy, the Cresses, the Sorrels, the Mallows, the Roses, the Blossoms, the Lilies, &c., &c., &c., without number? Are they globular, triangular, quadrangular, Cubes, Cones, Obelisks, Pyramids, Ellipses, or what? Do their perfumes and flavours and different medicinal qualities depend upon their different modifications and combinations, and what are they?

What is the difference between Small Pox and Kine Pock? This must be Chymical. What shall we say of Heat and Light? Wave the former for the present, and think of the latter. A Sperma Cæti candle placed on a steeple on the great Blue Hill would be seen two miles, at least. A small portion of Sperma Cæti, therefore, converted into light, must fill a sphere of four miles diameter, with matter, if light is matter, and so full, that the human optick nerve can discern it in every part of that Sphere. How attenuated must that matter be?

To pass by the Sun, Moon, and Planets, look at the fixed Stars. My friend Herschel, I think, computes sixty or seventy millions of them discernible through his telescope. That we may not lose ourselves in this wilderness of suns, we will fix upon Sirius. I have not time to look into books of astronomy to ascertain his distance: say one hundred millions of miles. The light of Sirius, then, must be visible through this telescope in every part of a sphere two hundred millions of miles in diameter, at all times of the day, night, year, and age. Who is the Chymist who has levigated this light with his pestle in his mortar? Mathematicians have demonstrated the infinite divisibility of matter. The Marquis De l'Hospital has demonstrated the existence of quantities "infinitely little," and of other quantities infinitely less than those infinitely littles. What pretension can we have to limit the power of the first Chymist, and suppose that he has desisted at any imaginable minuteness, and fixed any definite magnitude or form of original and unchangeable particles of matter?

In former times, when I looked a little into Classicks, and a very little indeed it was, while I was fascinated with the Numbers of Lucretius, I could not comprehend his Atoms. In aftertimes, when I was delighted with the eloquence of Buffon, I could not help laughing at his Molécules.

Both appeared to me, as ridiculous as the Entities and Quidities of a more ancient Philosopher.

Chymists! pursue your experiments with indefatigable ardour

and perseverance. Give us the best possible Bread, Butter, and Cheese, Wine, Beer, and Cider, Houses, Ships, and Steamboats, Gardens, Orchards, Fields, not to mention Clothes or Cooks. If your investigations lead accidentally to any deep discovery, rejoice, and cry "Eureka!" But never institute any experiment with a view or a hope of discovering the first and smallest particles of matter.

I believe with Father Abraham and Sir Isaac Newton in the existence of spirit distinct from matter, and resign to the Universal Spirit the government of his heavens and earth.

I pray you to consider this letter as confidential. If it should get abroad, I should be thought a candidate for the new Hospital, before it will be ready to receive

Your obliged Servant,

JOHN ADAMS.

Professor GORHAM.

Mr. DEANE presented, in the name of Mr. W. F. Poole, a copy of the beautiful new edition of Johnson's "Wonder-Working Providence," of which Mr. Poole is the editor. Mr. Deane availed himself of the occasion to speak in high terms of the editorial labors of Mr. Poole in preparing this new edition for the press; and, on his motion, the thanks of the Society were ordered for the gift.

DECEMBER MEETING.

A stated monthly meeting of the Society was held this day, Thursday, December 12, at eleven o'clock, A.M.; Vice-President Colonel ASPINWALL, in the chair.